

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NICOSI 02129 01 OF 02 281206Z

45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01

EB-07 DHA-02 AID-05 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /089 W  
----- 043821

O R 281027Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4030

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

DIA WASHDC

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN

USNMR SHAPE BEL

USCINCEUR

USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 NICOSIA 2129

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CY

SUBJECT: AVLONA INCIDENT

REFS: (A) NICOSIA 1912 (DTG 101033Z JUL 76), (B) NICOSIA 1982  
(DTG 161458Z JUL 76), (C) STATE 185027 (DTG 270007Z JUL 76)

1. AS ESTIMATED REF B UNFICYP POLAD GORGE AND TURKISH  
FONMIN REP BARUTCU ARRIVED CYPRUS IN SATURDAY 17 JULY  
1976. THE FORMER RETURNED TO CYPRUS SPECIFICALLY TO WORK  
ON AVLONA PROBLEM. UNSYG SPECIAL REP PEREZ DE CUELLAR RE-  
TURNED SUNDAY 18 JULY 1976.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NICOSI 02129 01 OF 02 281206Z

2. SENIOR UNFICYP OFFICIALS MET WITH GREEK AND TURKISH

CIVILIAN AUTHORITIES 18 AND 19 JULY ON AVLONA ISSUES.  
IN MEETINGS WITH TURKISH AMBASSADOR INHAN AND BARUTCU, UN

OFFICIALS REPORT THAT TURKS WOULD MAKE NO COMMITMENT UNTIL  
THEY CONSULTED SENIOR MILITARY COMMANDER LT. GEN. GUNERI  
FOR HIS APPROVAL.

3. MEANWHILE UN SOUGHT AND RECEIVED PERMISSION AT LOWER  
LEVEL FOR GREEK CYPRIOT FARMERS TO ENTER AVLONA CONFRONTATION  
AREA TEMPORARILY TO IRRIGATE CROPS/ORCHARDS. ONLY TURK  
STIPULATION WAS THAT GREEKS REMAIN OUT OF SIGHT OF TURKISH  
FORWARD DEFENSE LINE. GREEK CYPRIOTS ENTERED DMZ ON 19 JULY  
PURSUANT TO THIS AGREEMENT. AS QUID PRO QUO TURKS WRUNG  
MAJOR LONG-TERM CONCESSION FROM UN THAT ALL FUTURE USE OF EN-  
TIRE CONFRONTATION AREA WOULD BE SUBJECT TO PRIOR CONSULTATION  
WITH AND APPROVAL OF TURKISH AUTHORITIES.

4. UN THEN PRESSED FOR LOCAL BUT PERMANENT SOLUTION LIMITED  
TO AVLONA ENVIRONS. TURKS, HAVING WON POLITICAL POINT ON  
CONSULTATION, APPEARED AGREEABLE TO THE LOCAL SOLUTION.  
FINITE PROCEDURES WERE TO BE NEGOTIATED AT THE CHIEF OF  
STAFF LEVEL WITH UN CHIEF OF STAFF BRIG. GEN. BEATTIE ACTING  
AS INTERMEDIARY BETWEEN GREEK AND TURK AUTHORITIES. UN  
OFFICIALS MET WITH MAKARIOS AND OTHER GOC OFFICIALS TUESDAY  
20 JULY TO GET THEIR APPROVAL FOR THE CONCESSION TO CONSULT  
TURK AUTHORITIES ON CONFRONTATION AREA USE AND TO ARRIVE  
AT LOCAL AVLONA SOLUTION USING CHIEFS OF STAFF.

5. GOC APPROVED OVERALL UNFICYP CONCEPT. UN CHIEF OF STAFF  
WAS OPTIMISTIC AND HOPED TO BEGIN DETAILED NEGOTIATION  
21. JULY. UNFICYP AIM WAS TO RESTORE AVLONA CONFRONTATION  
AREA USE TO DE FACTO STATUS QUO ANTE. MEETING BETWEEN  
UNFICYP AND TURKISH COS WAS NOT HELD UNTIL 22 JULY BUT PROVED  
INCONCLUSIVE. THE PROBLEM AROSE BECAUSE ON 21 JULY TFSC "PRESI-  
DENT" DENKTASH STATED TO LORGE THAT ALL HUMANITARIAN MATTERS WERE  
TO BE REFERRED TO HIM. AS A RESULT, A LETTER OUTLINING BASIC  
POINTS FOR AN AVLONA SOLUTION WHICH UNFICYP COS HAD  
INTENDED TO PRESENT TO TURK COS WAS DELIVERED BY GORGE TO  
DENKTASH ONE HOUR BEFORE SCHEDULED MEETING BETWEEN TWO  
COS'S. MEETING TOOK PLACE BUT TURK COS SAID HE COULD NOT  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NICOSI 02129 01 OF 02 281206Z

DISCUSS SUBSTANTIVE SUBJECTS AS HE, TURK COS, HAD NO RPT NO  
KNOWLEDGE THAT DENKTASH HAD RECEIVED LETTER AND THEREFORE  
HE HAD NO GUIDANCE. UNFICYP COS PRESSED TO GET AGREEMENT  
ON UNDERLYING PRINCIPLES THAT (1) LOCAL AVLONA SOLUTION  
WAS DESIRABLE AND (2) THAT PAST PRACTICES FOR USE OF CON-  
FRONTATION AREA AT OTHER POINTS ALONG THE LINE WOULD GOVERN  
EACH SPECIFIC AREA. TURK COS WOULD NOT AGREE TO THIS BUT  
INSISTED THAT TURKS WERE ENTITLED TO 50-50 USE OF CONFRONTA-

TION AREA. HE ALSO WAS FIRM THAT TURKS HAVE RIGHT TO NEGOTIATE USE OF ANY PART OF CONFRONTATION AREA. TURK COS REFUSED TO ADDRESS THESE POINTS BECAUSE UNFICYP HAD NOT COMPLIED WITH PREVIOUS AGREEMENTS. THUS, TEMPORARY PERMISSION TO ENTER CONFRONTATION AREA TO IRRIGATE CROPS WAS FOR 48 HOURS ONLY BUT UNFICYP HAD CONTINUED TO ESCORT FARMERS INTO AREA AFTER TIME EXPIRED; FARMERS WERE COMING CLOSER TO TURK FDL THAN THE AGREED-TO 1200 METERS; AND THE LETTERS HAD NOT BEEN EXCHANGED. THEY DID AGREE THAT ANY FUTURE MEETING INVOLVE POLITICAL AS WELL AS MILITARY PEOPLE. ALSO THEY HELD A GENERAL DISCUSSION ABOUT ESTABLISHING A BUFFER ZONE BETWEEN THE TURK AND GREEK FARMING LINES. ON 22 JULY 1976, AT ABOUT 1900Z HOURS, TWO SOLDIERS FROM THE BRITISH CONTINGENT UNFICYP WERE STONED AND BEATEN BY ONE OFFICER AND TWELVE ENLISTED MEN OF THE TURKISH ARMY. THE INCIDENT OCCURRED IN THE CONFRONTATION AREA SOUTHWEST OF KATO KOPIA VICINITY GRID COORDINATES WD 0490. THIS IS AREA IMMEDIATELY WEST OF AVLONA. BRITISH SOLDIERS WERE BADLY INJURED, REQUIRING HOSPITALIZATION. TURKISH FORCES SUBSEQUENTLY APOLOGIZED TO UNFICYP FOR THE INCIDENT, BUT CLAIM THEIR MEN WERE PROVOKED INTO ACTING BY UNFICYP SOLDIERS.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NICOSI 02129 02 OF 02 281209Z

45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 OMB-01

EB-07 DHA-02 AID-05 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /089 W

----- 043852

O R 281027Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4031

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

DIA WASHDC  
USMISSION USNATO  
USMISSION USUN  
SSNMR SHAPE  
USCINCEUR  
USDOCOSOUTH

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 NICOSIA 2129

6. AS OF 27 JULY 1976 SUBSTANTIVE MEETING BETWEEN UNFICYP AND TURKISH COS STILL HAD NOT RPT NOT TAKEN PLACE. A SENIOR UNFICYP OFFICIAL FAMILIAR WITH DISCUSSIONS HELD IN ANKARA BETWEEN PEREZ DE CUELLAR/GORGE AND BARUTCU STATED THAT ALL AGREEMENTS MADE THERE TO RESOLVE AVLONA IMPASSE WERE OVERRULED BY SENIOR CYPRUS MAINLAND TURK COMMANDER, LT. GEN. GUNERI. THUS, BARUTCU'S TRIP TO CYPRUS APPARENTLY DID NOT CONTRIBUTE TO A SOLUTION.

7. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF AVLONA INCIDENT, SEE FOLLOWING IIR'S SUBMITTED BY DAO NICOSIA:  
6823016376, 6823015976, 6823015176, 6823014676, 6823012976,  
6823011876, 6823011776, 6823010676, 6823010176, AND 6823009276.  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NICOSI 02129 02 OF 02 281209Z

8. EMBASSY INFORMATION ON AKHYRITOU (GRID COORDINATES WD 785847) LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING. AKHYRITOU LIES WHOLLY WITHIN THE TURKISH SECTOR NEAR THE BRITISH EASTERN SOVEREIGN BASE (SBA). UNTIL MID-JUNE 1976 THE VILLAGE WAS OCCUPIED BY TURK CYPRIOT FIGHTERS (TCF). AT THIS TIME THE TCF WERE REPLACED BY MAINLAND TURKISH SOLDIERS (SEE IIR 6823014676). ABOUT THE SAME TIME, MAINLAND TURK CIVILIANS WERE OBSERVED MOVING INTO THE VILLAGE (SEE IIR 6823015176). AMY GREEK CYPRIOT FORMER RESIDENTS OF AKHYRITOU WORK IN THE AYIOS NIKOLAOS (WD 8183) PORTION OF THE BRITISH ESBA. AKHYRITOU LIES ONLY 500 METERS WEST OF THE ESBA BOUNDARY, SO THE FORMER RESIDENTS CAN OBSERVE WHAT HAPPENS IN THE VILLAGE. THEY PROTESTED TO THE SENIOR BRITISH COMMANDER, AIR VICE MARSHAL (AVM) ROY AUSTEN-SMITH WHO IN TURN DISPATCHED A LETTER WITH APPROXIMATE DATE OF 25 JUNE 1976 TO THE SENIOR MAINLAND TURKISH COMMANDER, LT. GEN. VAHIT GUNERI, COMPLAINING ABOUT MAINLAND TURK SETTLEMENT. GEN. GUNERI REPLIED BY LETTER OF APPROXIMATELY 12 JULY TO AVM AUSTEN-SMITH THAT TURKS IN AKHYRITOU WERE ONLY "SEASONAL WORKERS" AND WOULD SOON BE GONE. HOW LONG THE "SEASON" WOULD LAST WAS NOT SPECIFIED. BEST INFORMATION AVAILABLE INDICATES "SEASONAL WORKERS" REMAIN IN THE VILLAGE.

9. SUBSEQUENT TO WRITING PARAS ABOVE WE HAD A CONVERSA-

TION WITH UNFICYP OFFICER COMMANDING AVLONA SECTOR OF DMZ. HE REPORTS THAT ON 26 JULY AND 27 JULY TURKS ALLOWED GREEK CYPRIOTS TO CONDUCT NORMAL AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA OUT OF SIGHT OF TURKISH FORWARD DEFENSIVE LINE (FDL). THIS REPRESENTS SOME LOSS OF AGRICULTURAL LAND TO GREEKS BUT EASES POLITICAL PRESSURE ON UNFICYP AND GOC.

10. UNFICYP BELIEVS THAT U.S. SUPPORT FOR FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF PARA 64 OF SYG'S JUNE 5 REPORT ON CYPRUS (WHICH URGES PARTIES TO COOPERATE WITH UNFICYP SO THAT ON HUMANITARIAN BASIS IT CAN ASSIST "NORMAL CIVILIAN ACTIVITIES" IN CONFRONTATION AREA) WOULD BE USEFUL. IN VIEW OF POSSIBLE POLITICAL AND OTHER COMPLICATIONS WHICH COULD ARISE OUT OF CONTINUED FRICTION IN THE CONFRONTATION ZONE, WE AGREE THAT A GENERAL AND LOW-KEY APPROACH WOULD BE HELPFUL. IN  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03    NICOSI 02129 02 OF 02 281209Z

OUR VIEW, SUCH AN APPROACH SHOULD URGE THE TURKS TO 1) COOPERATE FULLY WITH UNFICYP IN WORKING OUT SOLUTION TO THIS HUMANITARIAN QUESTION AND 2) AVOID ANY ACTIONS WHICH COULD BE CONSTRUED BY OTHERS AS A TURKISH ATTEMPT TO EXPAND THEIR PRESENT LINES.

11. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE TEXT U.P.I. STORY REF C.  
DILLERY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DMZ, TERRITORIAL CLAIMS, BORDER INCIDENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976NICOSI02129  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760291-0918  
**From:** NICOSIA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19760713/aaaaalmq.tel  
**Line Count:** 252  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 5  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 NICOSIA 1912, 76 NICOSIA 1982  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 07 JAN 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <07 JAN 2004 by morefirh>; APPROVED <07 Jan 2004 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AVLONA INCIDENT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, CY, TU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006